In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 7, 9 and 11, as follows:

1) **(Currently Amended)** A computer-implemented forecasting system for determining
   time-phased sales forecasts and planned replenishment shipments for products that sell in low
   volumes in a retail store supply chain, the system comprising:

   a)a computing resource having a processor, a memory and a program stored in said memory,
   wherein said processor executes said program, said program including:

       i) a first portion that determines projected sales of a plurality of low-volume products for
       a retail store in the supply chain during a first time period using numerical
       representations of seasonal selling profiles for each of said plurality of low-volume
       products during said first time period, wherein said projected sales are determined with
       respect to each of said plurality of said low-volume products by evaluating when a
       mathematical product obtained by multiplying a random number times a summation of
       said numerical representations of seasonal selling profiles for said each low-volume
       product for a plurality of second time periods exceeds a threshold, wherein said
       threshold for each of said plurality of low-volume products equals said random
       number times a summation of said numerical representations for said first time period
       for said each low-volume product, further wherein said first portion uses said random
       number to determine an offset from a day in said first time period for each of said low-
       volume products; and

       ii) a second portion that, using said projected sales determined by said first portion,
       distributes within said first time period replenishment shipment dates for each of said
       plurality of low-volume products, wherein said offset is used by said second portion to
       define said replenishment shipment dates.

2) **(Previously Presented)** A system according to claim 1, wherein said first portion generates
   a random number for each of said plurality of low-volume products.

3) **(Previously Presented)** A system according to claim 2, wherein said first portion uses said
   random number to determine an offset from the first day of said first time period for each of

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said low-volume products, wherein said offset is used by said second portion to define said replenishment shipment dates .

4) **(Previously Presented)** A system according to claim 1, wherein said second portion determines different shipment dates within said first time period for low-volume products having more than one projected sale during said first time period.

5) **(Previously Presented)** A system according to claim 1, wherein said second portion adjusts said shipment dates for at least some of said plurality of low-volume products when excess inventory of said at least some of said plurality of low-volume products exists at said retail store.

6) **(Previously Presented)** A system according to claim 1, wherein said first portion determines projected sales for a plurality of low-volume products for a plurality of retail stores in the supply chain during said first time period.

7) **(Currently Amended)** A method of determining time-phased sales forecasts and planned replenishment shipments for products that sell in low volumes in a retail store supply chain using a computing resource having a processor, a memory and a program stored in the memory, wherein the processor executes said program, the method comprising the steps of:

a) using the computing resource to determine projected sales of a plurality of low-volume products for a retail store in the supply chain during a first time period by evaluating for each of said plurality of low-volume products when a mathematical product obtained by multiplying a random number times a summation of numerical representations of seasonal selling profiles for said each low-volume product for a plurality of second time periods exceeds a threshold, wherein said threshold for each of said plurality of low-volume products equals said random number times a summation of said numerical representations for said first time period for said each low-volume product, and further using said random number to determine an offset from a day in said first time period for each of said low-volume products; and

b) using the computing resource to distribute within said first time period shipment dates for each of said plurality of low-volume products based on said projected sales, and further using said offset to define said shipment dates.

8) **(Previously Presented)** A method according to claim 7, wherein said step b includes the step of adjusting said shipment dates for at least some of said plurality of low-volume products when excess inventory of said at least some of said plurality of low-volume products exists at said retail store.

9) **(Currently Amended)** A computer-implemented forecasting system for determining time-phased sales forecasts and planned replenishment shipments for products that sell in low volumes in a retail store supply chain, the system comprising:

a) forecasting means for determining projected sales of a plurality of low-volume products for a retail store in the supply chain during a first time period using numerical representation of seasonal selling profile for each of said plurality of low-volume products during said first time period , wherein said projected sales are determined with respect to each of said plurality of said low-volume products by evaluating when a mathematical product obtained by multiplying a random number times a summation of said numerical representations of seasonal selling profiles for said each low-volume product for a plurality of second time periods exceeds a threshold, wherein said threshold for each of said plurality of low-volume products equals said random number times a summation of said numerical representations for said first time period for said each low-volume product, further wherein said forecasting means uses said random number to determine an offset from a day in said first time period for each of said low-volume products; and

b) replenishment shipment means for distributing within said first time period, based on said projected sales, shipment dates for each of said plurality of low-volume products, wherein said offset is used by said replenishment shipment means to define said replenishment shipment dates.

10) **(Previously amended)** A system according to claim 9, wherein said replenishment shipment means calculates an aggregate demand for said plurality of low-volume products to be shipped on said shipment dates for use by entities that supply retail stores in the supply chain.

11) **(Currently Amended)** A computer-readable storage medium for storing a computer program executable on a computer, the program including instructions for performing the steps of:

   a) determining projected sales of a plurality of low-volume products for a retail store in the supply chain during a first time period using seasonal selling profile for each of said plurality of low-volume products during said first time period by evaluating for each of said plurality of low-volume products when a mathematical product obtained by multiplying a random number times a summation of numerical representations of seasonal selling profiles for said each low-volume product for a plurality of second time periods exceeds a threshold, wherein said threshold for each of said plurality of low-volume products equals said random number times a summation of said numerical representations for said first time period for said each low-volume product, and further using said random number to determine an offset from a day in said first time period for each of said low-volume products; and

   b) distributing within said first time period shipment dates for each of said plurality of low-volume products using said projected sales, and further using said offset to define said shipment dates.

12) **(Previously Presented)** A medium according to claim 11, wherein said step b includes the step of adjusting said shipment dates for at least some of said plurality of low-volume products.

13-41) **(Previously Canceled)**

42. **(Previously presented)** A system according to claim 1, wherein said second portion determines an aggregate demand for said plurality of low-volume products to be shipped on said replenishment shipment dates for use by entities that supply retail stores in the supply chain in place of forecasts.

43. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 7, further including determining an aggregate demand for said plurality of low-volume products to be shipped on said shipment dates for use by entities in the supply chain that supply retail stores retail stores in place of forecasts.

44. **(Previously presented)** A computer-readable medium according to claim 11, wherein said distributing step includes determining an aggregate demand for said plurality of low-volume products to be shipped on said shipment dates for use by entities in the supply chain that supply retail stores.

45. **(Previously presented)** A system according to claim 1, wherein said first portion indicates that a projected sale of each of said plurality of low-volume products occurs in that one of said plurality of second time periods in which, for said each low-volume product, said mathematical product exceeds said threshold.

46. **(Previously presented)** A system according to claim 1, wherein each of said numerical representations is a percentage of total sales over a third time period for a corresponding one of said plurality of low-volume products that is projected to fall in one of said plurality of second time periods.

47. **(Previously presented)** A system according to claim 46, wherein said second time period is a week and said third time period is a year.

48. **(Previously presented)** A system according to claim 1, wherein said threshold for each of said plurality of low-volume products equals said random number times a summation of said numerical representations for said first time period for said each low-volume product.

49. **(Previously presented)** A system according to claim 1, wherein said threshold is the integer 1.

50. **(Previously presented)** A system according to claim 7, wherein said determining step includes indicating that a projected sale of each of said plurality of low-volume products occurs in that one of said plurality of second time periods in which, for said each low-volume product, said mathematical product exceeds said threshold.

51. **(Previously presented)** A system according to claim 7, wherein each of said numerical representations used in said determining step is a percentage of total sales over a third time period for a corresponding one of said plurality of low-volume products that is projected to fall in one of said plurality of second time periods.

52. **(Previously presented)** A system according to claim 51, wherein said second time period is a week and said third time period is a year.

53. **(Previously presented)** A system according to claim 7, wherein said threshold for each of said plurality of low-volume products used in said determining step equals said random number times a summation of said numerical representations for said first time period for said each low-volume product.

54. **(Previously presented)** A system according to claim 7, wherein said threshold is an integer.

55. **(Previously presented)** A system according to claim 9, wherein each of said numerical representations is a portion of total sales over a third time period for a corresponding one of said plurality of low-volume products that is projected to fall in one of said plurality of second time periods.

56. **(Previously presented)** A system according to claim 9, wherein said second time period is shorter than said third time period.

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58. (**Previously presented**) A system according to claim 9, wherein said threshold for each of said plurality of low-volume products equals said random number times a summation of said numerical representations for said first time period for said each low-volume product.

59. (**Previously presented**) A system according to claim 9, wherein said threshold is an integer.

60. (**Previously presented**) A system according to claim 11, wherein said determining step includes indicating that a projected sale of each of said plurality of low-volume products occurs in that one of said plurality of second time periods in which, for said each low-volume product, said mathematical product exceeds said threshold.

61. (**Previously presented**) A system according to claim 11, wherein each of said numerical representations used in said determining step is a percentage of total sales over a third time period for a corresponding one of said plurality of low-volume products that is projected to fall in one of said plurality of second time periods.

62. (**Previously presented**) A system according to claim 11, wherein said threshold for each of said plurality of low-volume products equals said random number times a summation of said numerical representations for said first time period for said each low-volume product.

64. (**Previously presented**) A system according to claim 1, wherein said threshold is one of the following: a fraction and an integer.

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